

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: August 9, 2002

From: Diane C. Eidam

File No: Reference No. 4.8
INFORMATION

Ref: STATUS OF ALAMEDA CORRIDOR EAST PROJECTS

The Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) provided \$273 million toward the funding of railroad grade separations in eastern Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County and Orange County as part of the Alameda Corridor East program. Legislation also required that before grants from the TCRP could be allocated to any of the Alameda Corridor East projects, a report on the "regional mobility needs as well as regional, state, and national economic impacts of the corridor" must be completed and submitted to the California Transportation Commission.

The required Alameda Corridor East Trade Corridor Plan was presented at the Commission's June 7, 2001 meeting. The Commission accepted the Plan, finding that it meets all legislative requirements. The Commission complimented the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, San Bernardino Associated Governments, Orange County Transportation Authority and the Riverside County Transportation Commission for cooperatively producing a report in only nine months which effectively examined the status, significance, project needs and priorities of goods movement along the Alameda Corridor East from the downtown Los Angeles rail yards through the Cajon Pass in San Bernardino County and into central Riverside County. This cooperative effort was a successful demonstration of the regional approach needed to deliver major projects of regional and statewide significance.

The Commission approved the project applications for the Orangethorpe Corridor project in Orange County for \$28 million on June 7, 2001, the \$150 million project to build grade separations on the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe (BNSF) and the Union Pacific (UP) Railroad lines in Los Angeles County on July 12, 2001, and the \$95 million project to build grade separations on the BNSF and the UP railroad lines in San Bernardino County on July 12, 2001.

The Commission also requested periodic reports from the agencies that prepared the Plan on the progress of implementing the corridor projects to be built using TCRP funds, expanding the funding base for the corridor in its entirety, and progress in developing a region-wide phased implementation program that uses objective criteria for determining project priority.

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